

GETTING DOWN TO IT.

House of Representatives Sits

All Day.

SENATE TAKES A HOLIDAY.

Rep. Richards Tackles Appropriation Bill—Many Items Referred to Committees—The Military Bill Discussed—The Talks on Economy.

Twentieth Day.

MONDAY March 17.

The session of the Senate lasted for about fifteen minutes.

The Printing Committee reported copies of the bill relating to public lands in the town of Hilo. The bill passed the first reading and went to the Public Lands Committee.

Senator Holstein gave notice of a bill to amend section 8 of the law relating to the election of legislative members. Adjourned.

House of Representatives.

House called to order by Speaker Naone at 10 a. m. Reps. Robertson and Kamaooha absent, the latter on leave. Rep. Kaho resumed his seat after a week's leave of absence. Rep. Robertson appeared later.

Rep. Rycroft reported on House bill No. 1, authorizing the Minister of Interior to make a certain class of leases, recommending that the House concur in the amendments introduced by the Senate. Report accepted and laid on the table for consideration with the bill.

Public Lands Committee Reports.

Rep. Rycroft reported again for the Committee on Public Lands, on Senate bill No. 6, recommending that Section 6 be amended by adding to it the words "by publication in some newspaper published in Hilo"; also, that the words "provided, however, that this section shall not apply unless the street upon which the property is situated shall be actually widened and graded in accordance with the published notice within two years of the date of publication" be added.

Just at this point in the proceedings of the day the Minister of Interior and Finance came tiptoeing into the room to join the Minister of Foreign Affairs at the long table, and to be present at the anticipated execution of the Appropriation bill as amended by the Senate.

First Reading of Appropriation Bill.

Speaker Naone arose, and after a short pause called for the first reading of the Appropriation bill. There was a rustle of papers and a scratching of heads, after which silence reigned supreme until Rep. Bond moved that the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider the bill. This was carried.

The Speaker appointed Rep. Bond as chairman of the committee, and that gentleman replied by moving for a reconsideration of his motion. Carried.

Rep. Rycroft moved that the bill be considered in the House. Carried.

The Fun Begins.

The clerk picked up his copy of the bill and began to read. Forming a baritone to the falsetto of the clerk came the voice of a flustered Wilcox reading the translation of the first section. Everything went along smoothly until after the reading of the final item, "Queen Dowager Kapiolani, \$4,000."

For Kawaiulani's Widow.

Rep. Hanuna asked that an item appropriating \$400 to the widow of the late J. N. Kawaiulani be inserted. He had died leaving his wife in extremely destitute circumstances. It was well known that Kawaiulani had been a staunch supporter of the Government from its very beginning as the Provisional Government, and that, in his capacity as a newspaper man (editor of the Kuokoa), he had upheld the Government with all the power he could bring to bear. He had tried to help the native Hawaiians, and it was no more than right that the people should show some signs of recognition of such work.

The sum of \$4,000 as a settlement on the Queen Dowager had not been offered. What had this person ever done for the Hawaiian people? Absolutely nothing. Was it fitting that she, a woman of means, should be given \$4,000 and the destitute widow of Kawaiulani nothing?

Rep. Bond moved that the matter be deferred until later.

Rep. Richards—Why, gentlemen, if we insert an item of \$400 for the widow of the late J. U. Kawaiulani we will have 400 other people putting in petitions for the same thing.

Rep. Richards, continuing, said that Kawaiulani had worked on the paper in question for the money that could be got out of it, just as any other man would do. Moved to refer the matter to the Finance Committee. Carried.

Judiciary Appropriations.

A discussion arose on the propriety of paying the Chinese interpreter and translator \$3,500, and the Japanese interpreter and translator \$2,500.

This did not seem just to Rep. Rycroft, who moved that the salary of the Chinese interpreter be made \$3,000.

Minister Cooper explained that there was more litigation among the Chinese than in the case of the Japanese, requiring more work.

Rep. Kaho moved that the item pass as amended by the Senate. He had been in a position to know the work of both, and he was most confident that the Chinese deserved more than the Japanese interpreter and translator.

Passed as amended by Senate.

First Circuit.

The salaries of the First Circuit Judge (\$3,000), Second Circuit Judge (\$2,500), and First Clerk (\$2,500), passed in review without any show of fight,

but the salary of the Second Clerk, labelled at \$3,000, brought forth a storm of discussion.

Minister Cooper explained that the distinction in the offices had given more to the First Clerk.

Rep. Winston moved to waive fine distinctions and give the First Clerk \$3,000.

Rep. Richards remarked that Minister Cooper had only referred to the distinction between the offices, and had said nothing about the work. He took this to mean that the work was about the same. It should be understood once and for all that the Government was paying for work, and nothing else.

Rep. Rycroft thought it would be better to lower the salary of the Second Clerk to \$2,500. A competent man could be found to do the work for that.

Rep. Richards moved that the items pass as in the original bill.

Rep. Winston moved that the salary of the second clerk be made \$2,500.

Rep. Richards said it was for the interests of the Government that it pay men according to the amount of work done by them. He was not quite well enough informed as to the matter under discussion, and moved that it be referred to the Judiciary Committee. Carried.

Second Circuit.

Rep. Hanuna could not see why the salary of the clerk of the Second Circuit had been made as low as \$1,200. In his opinion that office deserved as much as that of third clerk of the First Circuit, for whom an appropriation of \$1,800 had not been murmured against. The present clerk of the Second Circuit happened to be an old man at the work, and one who had proven himself thoroughly competent in his line. He should certainly receive more than a common plantation laborer.

Rep. Winston was at a loss to know where the money was coming from to raise salaries as Rep. Hanuna proposed.

Rep. Hanuna explained that his motion had been seconded and that he would like to see it put to a vote.

Rep. Richards wanted more information on the subject. If things were going to be done they should be done in the light of full information, and he moved that the matter be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Rep. Hanuna withdrew his motion to increase the salary of the clerk of the Second Circuit in favor of that of Rep. Richards, which, upon being put to vote, carried.

Third Circuit.

Rep. Richards asked for information regarding an item appropriating \$1,800 for a shorthand reporter.

Minister Cooper explained that there had been an increase of work on the island of Hawaii, relative to jury and other trials. To get along with speed it was necessary to have the evidence at a moment's call. The old-time way of taking evidence was not fast or accurate enough for the present needs.

Fourth Circuit.

Rep. Hanuna objected very strongly to the failure to provide for a shorthand reporter in Maui. He could not see how the economy came in by providing a shorthand reporter for Hawaii alone.

Rep. Winston (sotto voce)—They can borrow from the Third Circuit.

Minister Cooper explained that there were four terms on Hawaii, in consequence of which there was a great deal more work.

Rep. Hanuna said he believed in economy, but not in hurrying through with cases in circuits outside of this to which the Attorney-General and others were required to go from time to time. Hurrying through for the purpose of getting back to Honolulu was entirely wrong.

Rep. Richards said he was in favor of voting for a shorthand reporter if such was needed. He did not want anyone to think that he had voted for such an officer on Hawaii just because it happened to be Hawaii. The members of the House would find out before the consideration of the Appropriation bill was completed that he did not propose to do any such thing. The Government had entered into a plain business proposition, and it was the business of the House to make it as good as possible.

Rep. Winston wanted to know if it was considered necessary that a shorthand reporter should be assigned to duty on Hawaii.

Minister Cooper said that the matter had been well considered. Many important cases had been tried on Hawaii recently. The evidence in these had not been complete on account of the old mode of taking this down.

The motion to pass the item carried.

Department of Foreign Affairs.

Under "Clerk Executive Council, salary \$2,400," Minister Cooper explained that although this appeared as a new item, it really was not. Previously an appropriation of \$3,000 had been provided for "Expenses Executive Council." It had been thought best to segregate this and put the work in the hands of a clerk, with the salary of \$2,400.

In regard to the Consul-General at San Francisco, Rep. Richards wanted to know how much was collected by the Consul in fees.

Minister Cooper said that a large revenue was realized. Previously this went into the hands of the Consul as his remuneration. The appropriation proposed for this office was \$3,000.

Minister Damon said that revenue from this office was something like \$12,000.

Minister Cooper said that the item of \$75,000 for diplomatic corps service had been dropped.

When the item for the "Support of the Military Pay Rolls" was brought up, Rep. Winston, rising slowly in his seat, moved that it be referred to the Military Committee. Carried.

Rep. Rycroft asked for information on the item of \$1,000 for the "Preservation of Archives."

Minister Cooper answered that when the archives were moved from the Government building they had been found in very bad condition. An appropriation had already been made, but it was found that about \$1,000 more was necessary for the completion of the work.

Department of Finance.

Rep. Rycroft wanted to know if the Auditor General was ever sent outside of this island.

Minister Damon answered that the work in the city had been so cumbersome

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some that this had been found impossible. Outside help had been procured.

Rep. Rycroft asked if it would not be a good plan to create a new office of assistant to the Auditor. In his opinion it was a crime the way some of the books were kept. Every small office on every island in the group should be audited every three months. Government money should be carefully watched.

Minister Damon said that the matter which Rep. Rycroft referred to had been advocated ever since he first held office as Minister of Finance. In regard to the postoffices, there was sent to all other offices in the group, at stated intervals, a clerk of the postoffice here, for the purpose of examining into their condition. The same mode of procedure had been recommended to the Collector General of Customs. While he could not at present give advice as to the creation of a new office as proposed, Minister Damon was certain that such would be a money saving one.

The subject introduced by Rep. Rycroft called up another matter, that of the introduction of a bill providing for expenditures under public accounts. This, together with the appropriation bill for the past two years, had been \$3,400,000. This amount would be increased by about \$200,000 for the next two years. In order to provide for this the license act would be changed, and other matters arranged so as to make up the requisite amount. The more money put in appropriations the less will be the amount for public improvements. The House has evidently the correct idea—that the Government live within its means. Such is its desire.

Rep. Richards had mentioned the affairs of the Government as a plain business proposition. There should be more careful scrutiny on all matters in connection with the Government. Where are the appropriations going, and how much for each purpose, are matters of great importance. There is not a member of the House who has not worked for money. Each one has had to calculate on that at the end of every month. The first thing to be looked to is the preparation of salaries and payrolls, and the last the consideration of materials for improvements. Minister Damon said he would rather step out of Hawaii altogether than to have to go to the pay window and say to the employees of the Government, "I can't pay you; come around tomorrow."

Rep. Rycroft moved for a reconsideration of the salary of the Auditor General.

Tax Collector.

Rep. Kaho wanted to know why the Maui tax collector was chalked down at \$1,000, and the Kauai man at \$4,000, when the latter collected more taxes.

Minister Damon explained that the Maui man had Molokai and Lanai under his control. His territory was much more extensive.

Rep. Robertson wanted to know if the amount paid was for the extent of territory covered instead of for amount of taxes turned in. If such was a fact, then Hawaii would have a long head start.

Rep. Kaho said that the proper way for the Government to pay the collectors was according to the amount of taxes collected.

Rep. Winston (sotto voce)—On that basis the Oahu man would get about \$4,000.

Minister Damon moved that the Postal Bureau and the Bureau of Customs appropriation be referred to a committee.

Rep. Winston moved that a special committee of five be appointed. Rep. Robertson amended the motion to three. Carried.

At noon the House adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

Salary of Attorney General \$9,000; passed. Salary Deputy \$6,000; passed. Salary of Marshal \$6,000; passed. Salary Deputy Marshal \$4,000; passed.

Rep. Richards asked if the Deputy Marshal did the prosecuting? Attorney General Smith said it was the custom except in cases of sickness. There was no other person employed specially for that purpose.

Salary first clerk to Marshal \$3,600; passed.

Salary of Jailor \$2,900; passed.

Salary Sheriff of Hawaii \$5,000; passed.

Salary Sheriff of Kauai \$4,000; passed.

Salary Sheriff's clerk Hawaii \$1,200.

Rep. Richards objected to the item as unnecessary. With all the assistants around the sheriff's office the item could be done away with. Suggested that the stenographer could do the work or it might be done by the Deputy Sheriff. Would not move to strike it out now but would like to hear further.

Minister Smith said: Twenty-five years ago was sheriff on Kauai and did all the work himself, but since that time the work had materially increased and the responsibility was greater. There is much to do and a number of years ago the Government resolved to have clerks do the work for the various sheriffs. The deputy sheriff in each district is public

prosecutor as well and cannot act as clerk. I have asked for an increase in pay of deputy sheriff of Hawaii, because his position warrants it. These deputies must be competent to stand to masters in the department of Justice when the sheriffs are away and it is not right to have men with small salaries do that work. Under the Judiciary department an appropriation has been asked for a stenographer. As there are four terms on Hawaii and, as this stenographer must attend sessions in chambers as well, you will readily see how impossible it would be for him to attend to the duties as clerk in the sheriff's office.

Rep. Richards: I see these people sitting around all the time and you cannot make me believe that one of the policemen or the people who hang around the office all the time cannot do the work. Make them earn their money as we have to. You will tell us the policemen are needed whether they work or not. I move to strike the item out.

Rep. Rycroft agreed with previous speaker, but he could not expect a \$50 man to be there all the time. Sheriffs and deputies were absent from Hilo more than present. We have established a port of entry at Kailua, but it will be hard work to keep a vessel there at all times simply to keep the deputy collector busy. I am as anxious to practice economy as Rep. Richards, but there will be no economy in cutting off this item.

Rep. Richards: The point is as I would express it. Because Kailua is a port of entry is no reason why a room house should be built. The collector at Mahukona could go there and attend to the work.

Rep. Rycroft: Will you hire another policeman or have a \$20 a month man stand his watch and then keep books?

Rep. Richards: I am not hiring policeman.

Rep. Rycroft: I do not see any real reason for knocking this peculiar item out.

Item passed as in the bill.

Salary of clerk to sheriff of Maui \$1200; passed.

Salary clerk of sheriff of Kauai \$600. Rep. McBryde wanted to know why there should be such a difference in the appropriations so long as Maui and Kauai paid taxes to the same amount?

Minister Smith: Because the island is smaller and the settlements more compact. Was pleased to say that he came from Kauai, and it might be partly due to the more orderly character of the people of that island that a greater proportion of taxes was collected.

Rep. McBryde: But Kauai pays \$300 more taxes.

Rep. Richards: It is not a question of taxes, but one of usefulness and labor.

Minister Smith spoke of the advantages of distances on Kauai, and to perform the same duties, does not require as much work or time as on Maui.

Item passed as in the bill.

Salary of Deputy Sheriff, Hawaii, \$3,800.

Minister Smith explained the reason for increase of \$600 over last period as due to increased population. The deputy should be quite as competent as the sheriff.

Passed as in the bill.

Salary deputy sheriff North Kohala, \$2,400; passed.

Salary deputy South Kohala, \$1,080; passed.

Deputy sheriff Hamakua, \$2,400; passed.

Deputy sheriff North Hilo, \$1,440; passed.

Deputy sheriff North Kona, \$1,440; passed.

Deputy sheriff South Kona, \$1,440; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Kau, \$2,030; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Puna, \$960.

Rep. Rycroft asked an increase, on the grounds that he had more difficulty to do than any man in the district, and over twenty-seven miles of the roughest road on the island. He is a man that would be hard to replace at the salary. Asked that the appropriation be increased to \$1,200.

Minister Smith asked if the Hilo police did not attend to some of the police work in Puna.

Rep. Rycroft answered affirmatively and added that, instead of four miles in the district, as when the salary was fixed, there were now over fifty, and a six-acre plantation on which Japanese were employed.

Minister Smith referred to the report of the Chief Justice, showing fewer arrests in that district.

Rep. Rycroft suggested that it was a good recommendation for the sheriff.

Minister Smith said that in some instances increases had been asked owing to increase in population, and he, for one, would be willing to have an increase in this case.

Rep. Richards: The man combines the office of deputy tax assessor with the other and has salary from both.

Item passed as in the bill.

Pay of police on Hawaii \$46,000.

Rep. Richards wanted it to go to a committee.

Minister Smith had no objections if there was any necessity for it.

Referred to Committee on Finance.

Salary deputy sheriff of Maui \$3,000.

Rep. Richards wanted the views of the man from Maui. But as he failed to respond, the item passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Makawao, \$2,400; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Lahaina, \$1,920; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Hana, \$1,920; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Molokai, \$1,600; passed.

Pay of police Maui, \$31,000.

Rep. Robertson asked that the item go to Finance Committee.

Rep. Hanuna wanted to know if it was the same as last period. Being informed that it was he subsided.

Motion to refer carried.

Salary deputy sheriff Lihue, \$1,920.

Rep. Kaho moved that the item pass at \$2,400. He has to travel and must pay his expenses. The Waimea deputy sheriff has \$2,400 and does less work.

Minister Smith: The conditions are different. Waimea draws a larger salary because it is a larger district and is at a greater distance from the sheriff than Lihue. It is a populous district and requires careful attention. On Kauai the deputy sheriff at Lihue can cover either extreme of the island

from his residence between morning and noon. It could not be done by the deputy sheriff at Waimea.

Rep. Richards asked for an explanation as to differences in cost of officiating the police department on the islands.

Minister Smith answered that it was due to circumstances. Where a district court sat it was necessary to have some one competent to prosecute cases and attend to court duties, and it required more policemen to deliver papers.

Rep. Robertson wanted to know if Kauai was such an easy place to get around why two or three of the district courts on that island could not be abolished and the salaries saved.

Minister Smith said it would not do; the tax receipt books shows the amount of work done there, and that the district was large.

Rep. Richards: As I understand it these deputies are to act as prosecutors as well as deputy sheriffs.

Minister Smith, yes, sir.

Passed as in the bill.

Salary deputy sheriff Kawaihau \$1,560; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Hanalei \$1,560; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Koloa \$1,560; passed.

Salary deputy sheriff Waimea \$2,400; passed.

Pay of police on Kauai \$15,000; passed.

Salary of deputy sheriff, Koolaula, \$1,200.

Salary of deputy sheriff, Koolaula, \$1,200.

Salary of deputy sheriff, Waialua, \$1,200.

Salary of deputy sheriff, Waianae, \$1,200.

Rep. Winston asked that the salary of the last-mentioned be raised. He is an efficient, capable officer.

Minister Smith explained that it was the district, not the man, that commanded the salary. By his efficiency, he placed himself in a position to be promoted.

Item passed as in the bill.

Deputy sheriff Ewa, \$1,440; passed.

Pay of police, Oahu, \$140,000.

Minister Smith explained increase as due to certain extent, to the employment of mounted patrol, which has done much toward preserving peace in the community. Sixteen of these men patrol from Diamond Head to Moanalua every night.

Rep. Rycroft asked that it be referred to Finance Committee.

Rep. Richards read memoranda of separate items in the bill showing cost of maintaining a police force and military force in Oahu. It amounted to \$388,360, and he believed it was too much.

Minister Cooper: The number has made a mistake. His department was \$67,000, including everything—not \$96,000.

Rep. Richards: I am willing to take out the entire item. Even then it is too much.

Minister Smith explained that nearly a third of the population of the islands resided in Honolulu, and if the member knew the circumstances he might not object.

Motion to refer to Finance Committee carried.

Salary of two clerks at Receiving Station, \$2,880; passed.

Salary Supreme Court officer, \$2160.

Rep. Richards wanted to know if a policeman could not be detailed for the work.

Minister Smith: Hardly, as it is different from ordinary duty. Passed as in the bill. Salary of back inspector \$2,400; passed.

Physicians Receiving station and prison \$2,000; passed.

Pay of jailors, guards and lunas of prisoners \$55,000.